

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH EPSOM NEWSLETTER

3 OCTOBER 2021

Fr Bill's Update

Time, they say is a great healer, and I can vouch for this as I have spent a long time now in convalescence, I could say from the middle of July until now.

But it has also been a challenging time for me and a great test of my patience waiting for the healing process to work out in its own time. I am grateful for my new hip and to all the medical professionals who have treated me so magnificently. The fact that I needed a new hip in the first place is itself a significant marker of time indicating that the ageing process has worn out my own hip. But the healing goes on and is working well albeit a little more slowly than I would like.

Soon I hope to be back to full duties in the parish, but not participating in the London Marathon this year!

It is a great joy for our parish to be celebrating first communions this weekend, a blessed and spiritual moment in the lives of the children and their families. Let us keep them in our prayers as they will receive our Blessed Lord in the Eucharist for the first time.

Pope Francis has announced an exciting time ahead by calling a Synod of the whole church in 2023. All countries are being called to prepare for this Synod and we will hear more about this from bishop's Richard's Pastoral Letter this weekend.

In the meantime, I must continue with this time of healing; you may well see me striding out with my new walking poles, weather permitting of course!

God bless you all and keep well.
Canon Bill



**SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER
TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

The scriptures this Sunday teach us about the importance and centrality of loving relationships to the expression of our faith. The excerpt from **Genesis (First Reading- Genesis 2: 18-24)** begins our salvation story with a vision of humanity in harmonious relationship with nature. We are formed of the same elements as the earth we live upon and share with creation. Women and men are helpmates for each other and tasked with caring for God's creation.

The song of the Lord's blessings upon us in the Psalm (**Psalm 127**) uses images of abundance to describe God's relationship with creation.

The theology outlined in the Second Reading (**Hebrews 2: 9-11**) reveals the solidarity and compassion of the Lord with the world and humanity by sharing with us in suffering, death, and in leading us towards Resurrection.

The Gospel (**Mark 10: 2-16**) contrasts two different aspects of human nature. The Pharisees attempt to exert authority and power over Jesus by testing his understanding of contested aspects of the law. Jesus responds by reminding them that the law was only given to them because they had lost touch with the essential truth of loving relationship at the heart of creation. His response to the Pharisees and subsequent welcoming of little children is a stark challenge to the patriarchy of the time. Unlike them, Jesus views women and children as equals to men.

Let us pray that we will be blessed with the same compassionate spirit of Jesus to build a more just society that urgently focusses on restoring our harmony with nature.

DATE		MASS INTENTION
Sat 2 Oct	5.30pm	Deceased Relatives and Friends of the Kelly and O'Shea Families
Sun 3 Oct	<i>Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	
	10.30am	The Kirby Family's Intention
	5.30pm	The Hunter Family's Intention
Mon 4 Oct	<i>Memoria of St Francis Assisi</i>	
	10.00am	Well-Being of the Kelly and O'Shea Families
Tue 5 Oct	10.00am	John Downey RIP
Wed 6 Oct	10.00am	Funeral Mass for Costantino Lepore
Thu 7 Oct	11.00am	Funeral Mass for Matilda Foolchand
Fri 8 Oct	10.00am	NO MASS
Sat 9 Oct	5.30pm	Joe and Bridie Kelly RIP
Sun 10 Oct	<i>Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	
	10.30am	Bob Hunter RIP
	5.30pm	

Mass is streamed live—please see Website for further details.

If you wish to book a Mass Intention, please email the Parish Office at office@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk.

We look forward to seeing all who can join us at the next Churches Together in Epsom monthly meeting: at 10 - 11 am on Friday October 8th, for Coffee, Fellowship and Prayer, at the Old Moat Garden Centre Cafe, Horton Lane.

ST JOSEPH

To mark the 150th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church, Pope Francis has dedicated a year-long celebration of St Joseph which is great news for our parish and school communities as we are dedicated to St Joseph. Let us double our efforts to seek his intercession in our prayers during this time of Covid-19. Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter "Pastoris Corde" (With a father's heart) "That is how Joseph loved Jesus". Here is the Pope's Prayer for St Joseph.

St Joseph Prayer

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage.
and defend us from every evil. Amen*

Our Prayers are asked for all those who are ill: Halyna Kurdiumov, Frances Walsh, Merlyn Soares, Anne Schifano, Peter Galipeau, Emma Lee, Ian Watts, Steve Lee, Jeffrey Forage, Melitona Leander, Vanessa Tuff, Francis McCrory, Susan McCrory, Anita Hully, Halina Krajewski, Kiera, Joseph Poku, Angela Brett, Maureen Hall, Bob and Maria Adams, Kay Pledge and Eddie Bell.

*Recently Deceased
Please pray for Najiba Toma and John Downey who have recently passed away. Please keep their families in your prayers.*

Beginning Experience Weekend

If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 8th to 10th October 2021 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com.

THE NATIVITY JOURNEY 15 – 20 DECEMBER 2021

Walk with Mary, Joseph and the donkey on the winding, steep road to Bethlehem. Register for the census and journey with other travellers, Roman soldiers and shepherds as you enter the stable to watch the miracle unfold. The Wintershall Nativity Journey is an unforgettable experience, bringing the true meaning of Christmas to life for the whole family. Please note that some scenes are performed outside and some inside Holly Barn Theatre, your visit includes a 10 minute walk up a steep hill. Limited disabled parking is available for those who need it most next to Holly Barn Theatre but those parking there will miss the first scene. This must be prebooked by emailing admin@wintershall.org.uk. Should a performance be cancelled due to covid we will offer refunds or credits to another event. We hope that you can join us.

A way to make YOUR voice heard at COP26

Hundreds of young Christians are on a pilgrimage which spans the length of the country. They set off immediately after the G7 summit and will reach Glasgow in time for COP26, taking this opportunity to call on world leaders to address the climate crisis.

In support of the relay, Christian Aid are calling on people to make prayer boats and send them to COP

We are building a fleet of prayer boats that will set sail for climate justice and cannot be ignored by world boats that will set sail for climate justice and cannot be ignored by world leaders.

Send your boat to COP26 - Thousands of boats from across the country will come together in a special installation at COP26 to deliver your prayers and messages written on the boat - to world leaders.

- To add your boat, send it to PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT. Please ensure your boats arrive by **October 15** to be part of the fleet.

Your prayer boats will join with thousands of others in Glasgow and help us make sure decision makers cannot ignore our calls for action.

Parish Finances and Offertory

Your offertory donations continue to be vital if we are to achieve break-even in 2021.

Easiest ways to contribute to offertory:

Standing order: Please set these up directly with your bank. The parish bank account details are as follows:

account name: RCD A&B St Joseph's Epsom; sort code: 40-05-20; account number: 71076221. Bank reference: your name, along with "GA" if you are a member of our Gift Aid scheme. (If you aren't yet a Gift Aider, please do join the scheme! See below.)

Via the Diocese website: visit www.abdiocese.org.uk and click the red "Donate" button in the top right corner, then under "Parish Giving" select "Epsom".

Gift Aid If you are a taxpayer, please join our Gift Aid scheme. This will boost the value of your donation by 25% at no cost to you. Simply fill in the Gift Aid Form (<https://st-josephs-epsom.org.uk/giftAidForm2020.pdf>) and return it to the parish office (by email is fine). Hard copies available in the narthex.

Many thanks for your support.

A request from a Senior Carer at Redroof House, Epsom.

We have a male Portuguese resident living here who speaks primarily in Portuguese. We are hoping that we could find someone who speaks fluent Portuguese who can come to our address and speak with our resident in Portuguese. It would also be nice to connect him back with the Portuguese community somehow. We are willing to pay someone for their time to talk with our resident. If you are able to help us, or would like to find out more about this opportunity, then please leave your details with the Parish Office and they will forward them onto me. Thank you!

FINDING STILLNESS

The Open Cloister @ Worth Abbey

A hybrid retreat where you are invited to come to Worth or join the retreat online. A section of the retreat is silent.

Fri 29th-Sun 31st October 2021
Mon 8th-Thurs 11th November 2021
Mon 13th-Thurs 16th December 2021

For further information or to book a place online go to: worth.co.uk/retreat-programme Enquiries: retreats@worth.org.uk

PARISH OPENING HOURS

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY
8.30A.M. – 2.30P.M.**

**THURSDAY
8.30A.M. – 12.30P.M.**

GIFT AID STATEMENTS

Your GiftAid tax statements are now ready for collection at the church. If you are unable to collect in person, please email the office at giftaid@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk and we will post it to you.

The alliance of organisations working together to deliver the new emotional wellbeing and mental health service for children and young people in Surrey, is delighted to announce the new service name: **Mindworks Surrey**. Mindworks Surrey also has a brand new website: www.mindworks-surrey.org providing children, young people, families and carers with information about services, advice and resources. It is a source of essential information, including how to ask for help in a crisis via the 24/7 Crisis Line. It features a dedicated area for professionals including schools and GPs. Please take a look at the website and come back to it regularly.

MASKS MASKS MASKS!!

Yes - the Creative Ladies are back in business! Now that we are emerging from Lockdown, the requirement to wear face coverings in Churches, shops, or on public transport is still with us. Some of your original masks may need replacement, or maybe you feel ready to diversify your wardrobe!

Please think of ordering from us. All the masks have three layers, including a filter, nose wires and are washable. And there are two styles to choose from, as shown below. We charge just £5 per mask and all the proceeds go to Faith in Action.

For more details and to place an order please contact either tommymakinson@gmail.com or creativeladies.stjosephs@gmail.com or phone **Mary on 01737 942164**



'London SW Catholic Social Group is a group for Catholic adults to meet for regular social and networking events in a friendly and relaxed setting with the aim of making new friends, enjoy new experiences or just to socialise. Upcoming events include walks, a karaoke evening and a Christmas meal; our monthly socials will restart in October. We can be found on Facebook – 'London SW Catholic Social Group' or on email - londonswcatholic-social@gmail.com '

Contact Us:

Email: office@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk
Telephone: 01372 723573
The Parish Sisters: 01372 745297

FOODBANK UPDATE

Thank you so much for your continued generosity over the last month or so. Your donations have kept coming and we are continuing to support those families and individuals in need. Our clients are now coming to our centres again. We know that the six-week school break can be a long one for families that are financially struggling and can't always put food on the table. Your donations make the difference - thank you.

Our current list of items needed includes:

Urgent:

- Long-life sponge puddings
- Treats for kids - crisps, snacks, chocolate

Wanted:

- Powdered milk; Meat pies; Sugar (500g bags)
- Tinned vegetables; Rice; Tomato ketchup
- Mayonnaise; Peanut butter
- Shaving foam; Baby wash; Soap
- Kids toothbrushes; Washing up liquid
- Shampoo
- Washing powder & pods (bio and non-bio)

Accommodation urgently needed for a parent and 3 children in the parish. Ideally 2 bedrooms but one large room would suffice. Can pay a basic rent and looking at around 3 months. This would enable children to keep school places and continue their lives in the area they love. For further information please contact Gill Walshaw

Marriage anniversaries Mass St Joseph's Church East Gate Gardens Guildford GU1 4AZ

Saturday 9th Oct 11.30am - 2.30pm

Are you celebrating an anniversary with a particular significance for you this year? Please join us for a wonderful opportunity to renew your wedding vows and revel in the joy that marriage can bring.

Bishop Richard will celebrate Mass at 11.30am, followed by a small reception. Family and friends are very welcome. Please click here to book your place or contact our Marriage and Family Life Adviser E: katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk